

# **ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**

5 The present invention relates to a chimeric gene that includes a first  
DNA molecule encoding a hypersensitive response elicitor protein or polypeptide, a  
promoter operably linked 5' to the first DNA molecule to induce transcription of the  
first DNA molecule in response to activation of the promoter by an oomycete, and a  
3' regulatory region operably linked to the first DNA molecule. Also disclosed are an  
expression system and a host cell containing the chimeric gene. The present invention  
also relates to a transgenic plant resistant to disease resulting from oomycete  
10 infection, the transgenic plant including the chimeric gene, wherein the promoter  
induces transcription of the first DNA molecule in response to infection of the plant  
by an oomycete. Transgenic seeds and transgenic cultivars obtained from the  
transgenic plant are also disclosed. Additional aspects of the present invention  
include methods of making a recombinant plant cell and a transgenic plant.

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